

Mi - PACA

*Michigan's Political Action
Committee for Animals*

May 12, 2016

Dear Senate Agriculture Committee,

On behalf of your constituents, the voters of your districts, we ask that you please vote in support of SB 403. We ask that you use this opportunity to provide homeless pets with a humane and dignified death, when such action is necessary.

Here are a few things you should know about gas chambers:

- Gas chambers are not 100% effective. Some animals suffer through and survive, only to be subjected to it again.
- Gassing is a horrific, inhumane death in which many animals become sick, suffering from seizures and vomiting, prior to death.
- The environment of being placed in a gas chamber – the smells, the sounds, the feel of the room – cause animals to panic and their last moments in life are full of fear, suffering and torment.
- The fear-induced adrenaline within the animals can prolong the process and suffering prior to death.
- The American Veterinary Medical Association, which is the leading voice in veterinary medicine, no longer recommends gas for routine euthanasia of cats and dogs.
- Gas chambers pose a danger to shelter staff. Animal shelter workers have been injured and even killed by malfunctioning gas chambers.
- Gas chambers are more expensive. Studies show that humane injection, including permitting costs and acquiring euthanasia drugs, actually costs less than using a gas chamber.

The homeless pets of Michigan deserve loving homes and families. When that cannot be provided to them, they at the very least deserve a humane, compassionate and dignified death that is void of fear, panic and stress. Euthanasia by injection is the only humane alternative.

Thank you for your time,

Mi-PACA Board of Trustees

Michigan's Political Action Committee for Animals

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